



Encouraging and equipping women to...

• GROW in God's Word • SERVE God's people • SHARE God's Son

Pastor's Message

THE REASON FOR LENT

Is God real, is the Bible history? This has been the issue for many people throughout history. That was the meaning behind the question the devil asked Eve in the garden. Is God true and is His Word truth? Eve and Adam were deceived into believing God's Word was not true and ate the forbidden fruit.

Immediately they both knew God's Word is true and they were under condemnation. So they hid themselves in the garden. God looked for them to confess their sin. But they refused to confess, Adam blamed God, Eve blamed the devil. God cursed the devil, Adam and Eve as well as all creation. Still God promised to restore His creation through His Son.

Forward many generations to the time of Noah and his family. Evil is everywhere. Genesis 6:5 "The Lord saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of his thoughts in his heart was only evil continually." There was one man not like the rest, his name Noah.

Noah and his family believed in God and the truth of God's Word. One day God spoke to Noah to instruct him to build an ark and what would happen. Noah in faith believed God and with his sons built the ark according to God's instructions. Believing God and trusting God's Word was not popular with anyone else. The months Noah needed to build the ark were months Noah preached the truth of God's Word.

Sadly, only Noah and his family believed God's Word and the destruction to come. As God instructed Noah, so it happened. As the waters began to cover the earth God shut the door to the

ark. It was too late for anyone to enter they had missed the opportunity given by God through Noah.

In the Church Year it is the season of Lent; a time of reflection on God's Word, a time of reflection on our lives according to God's Word, a time of reflection on the truth of God's Word. The truth of God's Word reveals we are all conceived and born in sin. We all justly deserve God's wrath and condemnation. But God in love sent His Son to restore His creation.

Jesus of Nazareth is God's Son, His name means the Lord saves. Jesus lived the perfect life in our place, then died the death we deserve to die. On the third day Jesus was raised to life eternal. God accepted His sacrifice on the cross in full payment for the sins of all people, past, present, and future.

When we look at our lives through the Ten Commandments with the help of the Holy Spirit, we realize we have not kept them throughout our lives. We have not always placed God first in our lives. We have misused the Lord's name not only in our words but also in our thoughts. We have not placed a priority on hearing and learning God's Word gladly as we should.



I remind you the words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 24 about His return in glory: “But concerning that day and that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.”

The season of Lent is a time of reflection on God’s Word of truth. In the waters of Holy Baptism God has adopted you to be His child. Through your parents, pastors and Sunday school teachers, God has shared His Word with you. In the Lord’s Supper God has given you Christ’s body and blood to forgive your sins and to strengthen you in the faith.

When we look outside the Christian Church, we see life in this world much like life in the days of Noah. The children of God are a minority. Christians are ridiculed and mocked for living the faith. But be certain, the Day is coming when Christ will return in glory and it will be too late to then turn to God for grace. God’s grace is here now through God’s Word and Sacraments. May God continue to hold you in His grace through the work of the Holy Spirit in God’s Word and Sacraments to be forgiven in the blood of Christ shed on His cross for you as you wait for the coming of Christ Jesus in glory on the Last Day. In Jesus’ name. Amen

*Rev Pastor Grout
Pastoral Counselor, LWMLC Central District*



en-LIGHT-en President’s Message



Colossians 3:12-15

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

How often do we feel THANKFUL? How difficult is it to be THANKFUL? It's easy to feel overwhelmed and discouraged as we live our daily lives. We may encounter a number of things every day that can leave us angry, upset, sad and discouraged. It's definitely hard to feel THANKFUL some days.

Do you think God ever feels sad or discouraged with us? We continue to lead sinful lives, day in and day out. We continually ask God for His forgiveness. And we continually sin. THANKFULLY, in Christ Jesus we are forgiven. God's instruction to us: 'forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive'.

Every day within our churches and yes, even within the LWMLC, we challenge, disagree and hurt our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Even though we are working together in Serving the Lord, and Spreading His Word, we sometimes hurt each other. We don't intend to be hurtful but sometimes

that's what happens. THANKFULLY we have God's Word to show us how to live; to forgive and to love. THANKFULLY we have God's forgiveness, and prayerfully the forgiveness of those we wronged, when we fall short of being a good friend.

May we 'Put on then...', the attributes that God asks of us in the above passage. 'And be THANKFUL'. Let's be THANKFUL in being a child of God and 'called in one body' and be THANKFUL for each other!

THANKFULLY, your Sister in Christ,

Pam Burns, President

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en-LIGHT-en Communication

St. Peter Women in Mission

Photos provided by Regan Schultz of Oxbow

The Perseverance Bible study by Donna Pyle held during this past winter. It was held at St. Peter Oxbow and included ladies from St. John Frobisher. The ladies loved digging into God's Word in this study and growing closer to Jesus and to each other!



thankful
grateful
blessed

en-LIGHT-en

Member Development

Speaking of Jesus / Writing of Jesus

Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

(verse 5 of LSB 585 text by Philipp Melancton)
author of the Augsburg Confession
friend and collaborator of Martin Luther

As LWMLC members, we are often asked to do a presentation or write an article. It may be only a short note of encouragement or a devotional we have been asked to write up. Have you stared at that blank sheet of paper and asked, "Where do I start"? What is my topic/purpose?

Our pastor did a presentation on this subject. We learned how we need to speak of Jesus to others and how to write of Jesus when this is asked of us. He said you should ask yourself, who am I? What are my vocations? Vocation means calling, so who am I? Perhaps a parent, grandparent, spouse, friend (especially through the sharing of suffering). He cautioned that when you do not speak according to your vocation (calling), you are on shaky ground.

Praying is a blessed thing. God commands and invites believers in Jesus Christ to pray.

*Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest."*

Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

You are on firm ground when you quote the Bible (Scripture). We are hearing directly from God. The basis of all Lutheran teachings is the Bible. We confess that **the only authority for Christian teaching and life which never errs or leads us**

astray is God's Word, which He has given to us in the Old and New Testament Scriptures (the Bible).

Where do you get your script? Immerse yourself in Scripture, and you'll find your script. Start with scripture. It is appropriate to speak what God has said. Be careful not to 'shoe horn' God's Word into what you want to say. Rather, let God's Word 'shoe horn' what you say. Let His Word be the light that guides you.

When speaking or writing of Jesus - consider how you would speak to a friend. Your write up may be well intentioned to encourage but where is Jesus? Have you proclaimed His saving work of the Gospel – i.e. salvation in Jesus' name?

Decide: What is my topic? My purpose? My text? Study your text in the context of the chapter to clarify what the text is saying. Remember we are not alone; our pastors will help if we ask. We are submitted to the Lord in what He has said. Let God speak for Himself.

Psalm 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer."

Blessings, Your sister in Christ,

Arletta Wood

District Member Development Committee

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en-LIGHT-en

Christian Growth

I Heard The Voice of Jesus Calling



“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” Psalm 91:1–2

Whenever I enter the season of Lent, I feel a bit of hesitation in my body and spirit. Am I really up for this season of repentance and renewal? Wouldn't it be easier to just sit it out this year? When I open myself to God's call in this way, something painful always rises to the surface. Martin Luther was familiar with this pattern and reminds us that the devil is a tricky creature who can't stand our faithfulness to God. When we seek God and resist the lies of the world, we can expect those lies to fight back. Today's psalm, with its reminders of God's faithfulness, is a comfort for us as we enter Lent. Take heart! Neither the lies of the world nor the painful truths you uncover can hurt you when the Lord is your refuge and fortress. “Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my Name.”

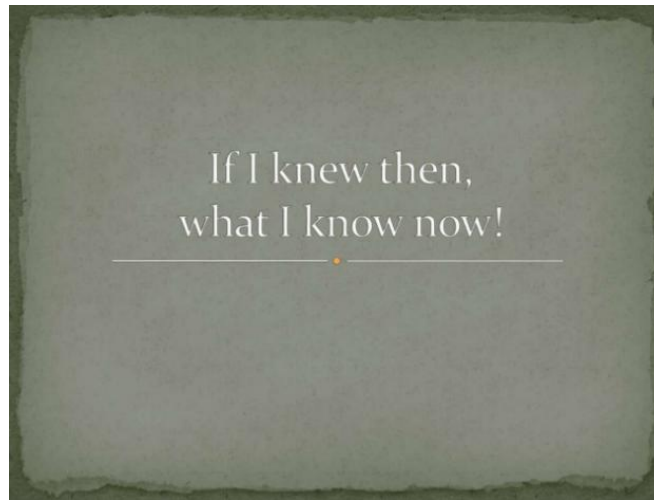
The familiar hymn for Lent, “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say,” is an invitation. Jesus says to us today: “Come and rest your weary self. Come and find refreshment for your body and soul. Come, follow me.” This invitation from our Lord is for us, exactly as we are. Jesus is inviting us, to put down your burdens and to come and find rest in Him, to come and drink deeply of the fresh water of the Spirit, and to follow where his light would lead us, one step at a time.

Take a moment today to lean on this good news: We are not alone. Our struggles are not unseen. We are beloved of God, who shines the light of life onto our path. Be not afraid. Step forth in courage!

Let us pray: Lord Jesus, come to our aid. Give us courage in the face of tasks you've given us, and protect us against the forces that keep us from you. We trust in you. We turn our hearts to you. Let us recognize our own name spoken in your voice. Oh God, give us the rest, refreshment, and light that we long for. Amen.

By Lorraine Weir
VP, Christian Growth

IF.....



There is a small article, written by Nadine Stair, titled, “If I Had My Life to Live Over.” It reflects on the things she would perhaps do a second time around. Unfortunately, we all have one chance at this wonderful journey, called “LIFE.”

“I’d dare to make more mistakes next time. I’d relax, I would limber up. I would be sillier than I have been this trip. I would take fewer things seriously. I would take more chances. I would climb more mountains and swim more rivers. I would eat more ice cream and less beans. I would perhaps have more actual troubles, but I would have fewer imaginary ones.

You see, I’m one of those people who live sensible and sanely hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I’ve had my moments, and if I had it to do over again, I’d have more of them. In fact, I’d try to have nothing else. Just moments, one after another, instead of living so many years ahead of each day. I’ve been one of those persons who never goes anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a raincoat, and a parachute. If I had it to do again, I would travel lighter than I have.

If I had my life to live over, I would start barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall. I would go to more dances. I would ride more merry-go-rounds. I would pick more daisies.”

Written By Nadine Stair

Since TIME is only a gift for now, I would take the time and share with someone TODAY the wonderful news of Forgiveness and Love from God. I especially think of the ones in my own family who really don’t understand what those two things really offer to them.

I would appreciate the TIME God has given me each day. The sunrise that is way too late these fall/winter days, but affords me extra sleep time.

I would take TIME to write an elderly friend, a neighbour who still lives on her farm alone, in spite of being in the tenth decade of her life. She tells my brother she misses my letters, and wants to know if I would still write her. A little pang of guilt got a letter written and on its way.

A neighbour who is blind and enjoys the company of another woman from time to time. I will make TIME to visit her.

Do you find yourselves INTENDING to do things like this, and not getting them done? Or is it just me? God has given me these wonderful years and the days that are part of them. They are HIS GIFT to me, but HE also has requirements for their use. “Go into all the world” and “share the GOOD NEWS with everyone.” The world is here, in our homes, our friends, and yes, even our brothers and sisters in Faith. We are all connected!

If I had my life to live over again, I would hope that I would not repeat the same mistakes as last time. I would, like the author, travel a bit lighter. I would not take so much baggage of doubts, fears, and entanglements. I would hold tighter to the Hand of my God, and know that as long as He is holding on to me, I can never worry about “doing this Journey over.”

Let us Pray: Dear Heavenly Father, when our life on earth is done, may we stand before you and hear the words, “Well done, my good and faithful servant.” Father, we know our time on earth is but a few words in our life’s story. Help us to use our time wisely, knowing we have done what God wants us to do. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

*Written By Eileen Turner
Christian Growth of the Central District*

en-LIGHT-en Christian Mission Report

Our committee has been quiet lately, with no grant requests. However, we are busy keeping in touch with our camps and coming up with ideas for the mite challenges. I have spoken to Lavinia Henderson of Camp Lutherland and to Heather Chony and Rev. Brian Falkenholt from Camp Aurora about the requests for mattresses and water system, respectively. Lavinia reports that Lutherland will be making a choice soon from which business to purchase the mattresses. Therefore, I am expecting some grant requests to be coming in soon, so please keep the mites coming! As well, keep praying and finding a way to support our 3 Lutheran Camps this summer!

This winter, we focussed on the “Great Water Challenge” for Camp Aurora. This spring, we will focus on the Technology grant from Edmonton Seminary. For the “Great Technology Challenge”, let’s consider the number of computers or devices in our households. Donate \$1 for each cell phone or notepad, or \$5 for every laptop/computer, or consider how much time is spent a day/week and pay \$1 for every hour (your free time not work time!) that you are playing on it. Donate \$1 for each phone in your house. These are some challenge ideas, and if you have more, then we welcome them, as well as your news on your mite challenges! We will focus on this mission project for the spring, then let’s take the summer off to enjoy God’s creation and beauty on Earth and in the heavens! Here is a prayer for the Technology grant:

Dear Heavenly Father: we thank You for the gift of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton, and for its professors, assistants and students who are eager to learn more about You and Your Word, and to share it. Some students and professors aren’t able to come to the seminary to learn or to teach, and so the seminary tries to reach out to them to share Your Word. Thank You, Lord, for allowing us to help the seminary with providing the means and technology to teach and to reach and to share with others about You and Your promises, love and salvation for all. Just as Jesus travelled from village to village and preached from the mountaintops and from the fishing boats, so may we teach of Jesus as we provide the means for our seminarians, pastors, deacons/deaconesses to reach others about You. Amen. (Read The Great Commission in Matthew 28:16-20 – “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the

Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them everything I have commanded you.” (vs19-20a).

Serving God and His people,

Diane Dennis, VP Christian Mission and Committee - Judy Burgstaler, Lavinia Henderson, Bonnie Kasper

“We... will give attention to prayer and the ministry of the Word.” (Acts 6:3b-4)

Update as
at time of
printing,
this has
been PAID
in FULL!

Central District LWMLC Mission Grants 2019 - 2022 as at March 2020			
NAME OF GRANT	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT PAID TO DATE	AMOUNT LEFT TO PAY
CAMP LUTHERLAND, Mattresses/fans	\$10,500	PAID!!	\$0
AURORA LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP, Water treatment system	\$8,000	\$0	\$8,000
PURCHASE OF DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS, Grace, Regina	\$2,000	\$1,051.07	\$948.93
PURCHASE OF BIBLES, Mt. Olive, Regina	\$1,000	PAID!!	\$0
DISTANCE EDUCATION INFO TECH UPGRADES, CLS, Edmonton	\$15,000	\$5,454.85	\$9,545.15
MISSION OPPORTUNITY FUND	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FOR DEACONESES, Cambodia	5,000	\$0	\$5,000
DEACONESS SUPPORT, Cambodia	\$3,500	\$0	\$3,500
PAID TO-DATE		\$18,005.92	
BALANCE REMAINING - YET TO PAY		\$31,994.08	
TOTAL GRANT AMOUNT		\$50,000.00	



Treasurer's Report

LWMLC CENTRAL DISTRICT Statement of Earnings & Expenses April 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020

Work Program	Actual	Budget
Mites	\$29,216.13	\$114,000.00
2019 Convention Mite Offering #1	\$2,544.85	
Total Work Program Income	<u>\$31,760.98</u>	
Expenses		
Mission projects	\$7,505.92	\$50,000.00
LWMLC 40% of Mites	\$11,477.07	\$45,600.00
Bank charges	\$77.66	\$150.00
Office Expense	\$201.10	\$200.00
Postage	\$37.43	\$200.00
Professional Service Fee	\$150.00	\$150.00
Supplies and Materials/Miscellaneous	\$82.00	\$300.00
Travel and Meetings	\$6,537.75	\$9,400.00
LWMLC Convention		\$2,500.00
LWMLC Convention Y/W Pastor		\$4,500.00
Honorariums	\$150.00	\$400.00
Go-T0-Meeting		\$600.00
Total Work Program Expenses	<u>\$26,218.93</u>	
Net Surplus(Deficit) Work Program		<u>\$5,542.05</u>
		\$114,000.00
Other Income:		
Supper meeting extras 8 X 20	\$160.00	
Camp Lutherland	\$110.04	
Mattress-Water Challenge	\$208.25	
Camp Aurora	\$149.85	
LWMLSunday	\$95.00	
Total Income	<u>\$723.14</u>	
Net Surplus(deficit) for the period		<u>\$6,265.19</u>
Total Work Program 2016-2019 Balance Forward	\$9,024.60	
2019-2022 Allocation	\$6,265.19	
2019-Central District Convention	\$1,600.36	
Work Program Funds available February 29, 2020	<u>\$16,890.15</u>	
Memorial Account 2016-2019 Balance Forward	\$492.23	
2019-2022 Allocation	\$0.00	
Memorial Account February 29, 2020	<u>\$492.23</u>	
	<u>\$17,382.38</u>	
Bank Statement February 29, 2020	\$17,382.38	
Less O/S Cheques		
Total funds available February 29, 2020	<u>\$17,382.38</u>	

By Heather Chony, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

Financial Secretary Financial Statement April 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020

	Total Received	Work Program to Date	Work Program 2019-2022
Mites	\$29,216.13	\$34,833.33	\$114,000.00
Convention Mite off#1 \$2,544.85	\$2,544.85		
Total Mites February 29,2020	\$31,760.98		
Other Income April 2019 - February 2020			
Camp Lutherland Mattresses	\$318.39		
Water Camp Aurora	\$149.85		
LWML Sunday	\$95.00		
	\$563.24		
Designated Funds 2019 Central District Convention			
Offering #2	\$2,254.00		
Offering #3	\$2,094.00		
Ingathering (cash)	\$465.00		
Mission Walk	\$7,989.85		
Total Convention 2019 Funds	\$12,802.85		
2019 District Convention			
Registrations	\$11,100.00		
Meals	\$7,800.00		
Saturday Registrations	\$1,500.00		
Saturday Meals	\$635.00		
Ex. Meal tickets	\$200.00		
Ex. Fee	\$375.00		
Pictures	\$210.00		
Book Sales	<u>\$80.00</u>		
Total	\$21,900.00		
Cash meals 8 x 20	\$160.00		
	\$22,060.00		
Total Income 2019 Central District Convention	\$34,862.85		
Total Income to February 29,2020	\$64,642.22		

By Sharon Beyak, Financial Secretary

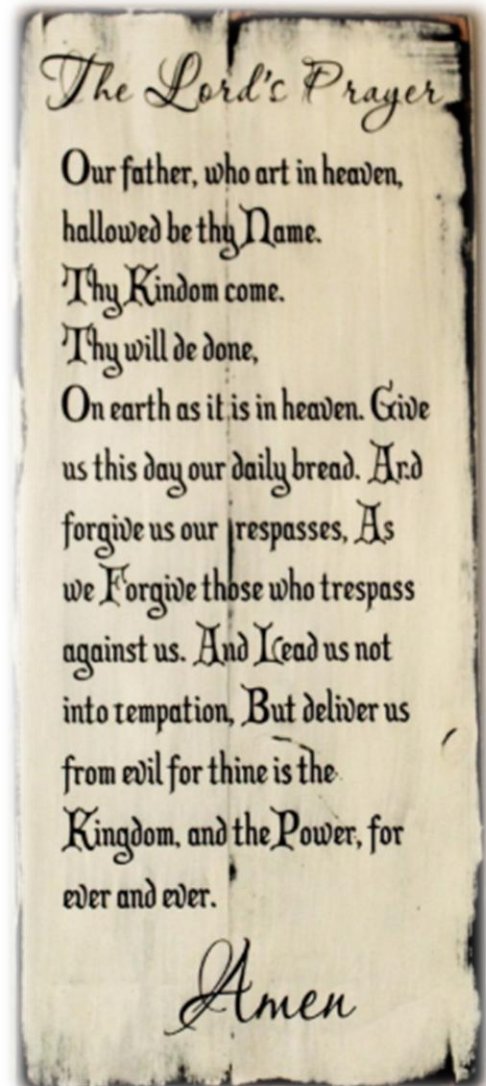
Zone Reports

Capital Zone

We have been travelling around to keep encouraging other societies. Fort Qu'Appelle society invited Cupar society to Bible study, fellowship and lunch on Saturday, February 1. Three ladies came and together there were eight. The Moose Jaw society (Southwest Zone) invited Prince of Peace for a get together. Thank you for the invitations!

We held a Zone Prayer Service on March 1 at Grace Lutheran Church, Regina which was organized by Pastor Arron Gust and Michelle Giese, and attended by about two dozen people.

Spring Renewal will take place at St. Paul, Cupar, on Saturday, May 2, from 10:30am to 2pm. We welcome Pastors Lucas Albrecht and Paulo Brum to redo their Music Ministry presentation from convention. Registration is \$5/person from 10-10:30 am and lunch will be provided by the St Paul ladies. The presentation will be in the morning, and a business meeting will be after lunch. We will be electing a new Zone President. The ingathering will be hygiene items for the campers at Camp Lutherland. All are welcome to attend!



Zone Reports

Wheatland Zone

“ Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to” Deuteronomy 15:10

This is what the members of Christ Lutheran, Neepawa did at Christmas time when challenged to raise funds for the “mattress challenge”. They raised \$208.20.



Before Christmas



On Christmas Eve

In addition to the challenge, the Christ/St. Paul LWMLC Society hosted a pot luck supper for all those Personal Care Home in Neepawa (where more carolers joined them) to sing to and with the residents, bringing joy of the season. They made "goodie" boxes for the members of the congregation that are residents of the care home, single and alone or have difficulty getting out of their homes. After singing at the Care Home they went to the house of a couple from the church to continue singing. It was a beautiful evening, the fog was thick making all the lights in town like beacons lighting our way!

We would like to wish everyone a healthy, happy 2020.

By Judy Gabler
Wheatland Zone President

CONVENTION 2021

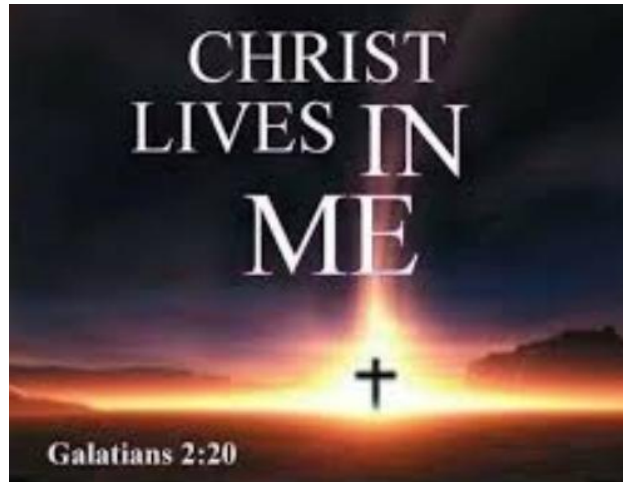
LWML–Canada Convention 2021

Theme: Christ Lives in Me

Galatians 2:20: I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but ***Christ Lives in Me***. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

When: Thursday July 8 to Sunday July 11, 2021

Where: St. Luke Lutheran Church, Surrey, BC



CONVENTION 2022

LWMLC Central District Convention 2022

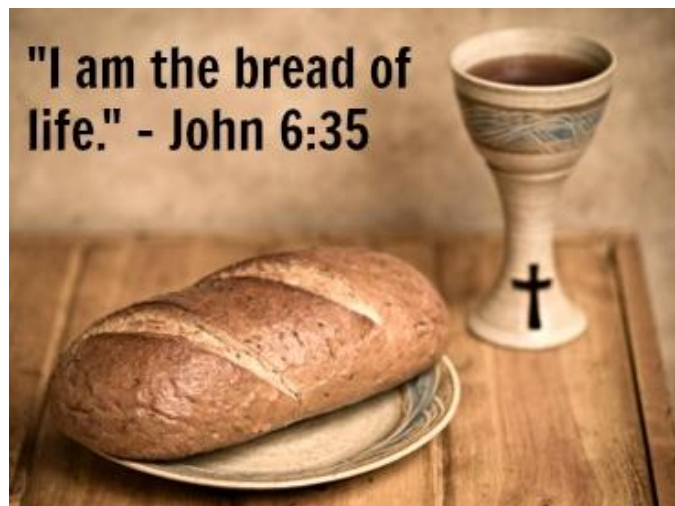
Theme: Bread of Life

John 6:35a: *Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life"*

When: May 27 to 29, 2022

Where: Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Regina Saskatchewan

Convention Chair: Carol Rein; **Co-Chair:** Lavinia Henderson



Thank you!

Mission Grant - Camp Lutherland

Thank you so very much for all your help with this mission grant and to our Sisters in Christ of the LWMLC Central District for their faithful support through their prayers and Mites.

from Lavinia Henderson

25 February 2020

Praise be to God



From your Newsletter Editor

From the bottom of my heart I'd like to thank you for your prayers. I am blessed to have each of you in my life and I can truly say that God is showering me with his Blessings!

Hallelujah!

From Silvia Virgilio-Findling, Editor and
now Permanent Resident of Canada!

